

Title: Need to clear the proposal of Orissa Government regarding project on river Aung.

SHRI PRASANNA ACHARYA (SAMBALPUR): Padampur sub-division in Bargarh district of Orissa is one of the most backward sub-divisions in the whole country. This area is adjacent to the KBK districts of Orissa. Even 54 years after Independence, neither a single industry in a big scale has come up in the area nor irrigation facilities have been provided. As a result, both industrially and agriculturally it is lagging far behind in comparison to other areas of the State and the country.

Forty-five years back, one major irrigation proposal was mooted on the river Aung which is the only river flowing through this area but the proposal is still pending. Had this been implemented, the scenario would have changed much before because this major irrigation project is bound to give a big boosting to the agricultural and industrial growth of the area. The Technical Advisory Committee under the Ministry of Water Resources of the Union Government has given technical sanction for this project two years back but other necessary steps like forest, environment and financial clearance by the State Government are still pending.

I would urge upon the Central Government to clear the project and also include Padampur sub-division of Bargarh district in the KBK scheme for which the State Government of Orissa has already sent its proposal.

---